

**Title of Session:** Collaboration Tools for the 21st Century

**Moderator:** Jeff Cooper

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Room: Arcade Conference Room

**CarlosA:** Ok, I think we're gonna get started.

**BJ:** if you have not read the 10 steps above this chat room, please do that now

**PatGst9:** Hi all...I am a teacher librarian in Powell River, B.C. Canada

**CarlosA:** Welcome everyone to the Collaboration Tools session lead by Jeff Cooper

**CarlosA:** Now, without much further Ado, take it away Jeff

**JeffC:** OK... people are logging in... (hi Sergei)... in the meantime... let me get a few things started.

**JohnCor:** Hi, I will be doing my internship teaching high school Spanish this fall in Knoxville, TN

**JeffC:** My name is Jeff Cooper, and for the past three years I was the Education Technology Specialist for the College of Education at Pacific University. I have over 10 years online experience, and want to share some of what I've learned with you today.

**SusanSi:** hello folks from NE Texas, I'm 4th grade math

**SusannahW:** Susannah, Houston, substituting in the fall

**JeffC:** We'll need to dispense with the introductions and hellos for right now... because it will scroll the screens... please use private chats to say hi to friends.

**RuthC:** I'm from Nebraska

**KellyeC:** Hey ya'll, I'm in Georgia-health/PE

**JeffC:** I'd like for people to start by taking their fingers off the keyboards, relaxing, and listening for a minute.

**SusanneN** waves hello from Denmark to all her good friends in here, and then sit down to listen to Jeff until we get to questions & answer time

**SergeiG:** listens to Jeff

**RuthC:** Are we supposed to detach?

**JeffC:** Actions--Detach will detach your chat box... and I recommend doing that, and then resizing it next to your main browser window.

**JeffC:** Please look at this to see what I mean: <http://snurl.com/tiledwindows>

**JeffC:** Click on that link and you will see my detached chat box, next to my main browser window. Resizing them side by side will make it easier for you here... but it's not 100% necessary... it's up to you.

**RitaZ:** detaching is a better way of following the trend of thought, more slowly and clearly

**JeffC:** This session will deal with Collaborative Tools and Building Collaborative Learning Communities. I will be showing you a number of sites, and will ask for comments from time to time. If you have a question, please use private chat, or wait to put it in when I ask for questions or comments.

**JeffC:** Now... on with the presentation.

**JeffC:** I have written an article that I would like you to take a look at:

<http://www.netc.org/circuit/2004/spring/build.html>

**JeffC:** or <http://snurl.com/netc1>

**JeffC:** Please click on either of those links to see the article I wrote for the Northwest Regional Education Lab. I will be discussing a number of the sites, as well as problems with tech and collaborating, new philosophies and ways of thinking...

**JeffC:** If anyone has difficulty opening that site, please send me (or Carlos) a private chat.

**JeffC:** At this point I'm hoping that most of you are reading the article.

**JeffC:** OK... now... there will be quite a bit of back and forth on this...

**JeffC:** I want everyone to be circumspect about what they type in, but will encourage questions and comments as we go.

**JeffC:** Yesterday, a student-teacher asked me a question "what philosophy drives curriculum" to which I replied "paranoia."

**GloriaMF:** Why paranoia?

**JeffC:** Paranoia, because administrators, teachers, in fact \*everyone\* seems afraid that something bad will happen.

**JeffC:** This has a tremendous chilling effect on using technology to \*transform\* curriculum.

**GloriaMF:** Okay.

**LeanneH:** oh

**JeffC:** Ask yourself... how many school districts in this country allow for synchronous chat?

**JeffC:** My answer: maybe 10% (being generous).

**NadineN:** not ours

**MarthaJ:** many even block it

**GloriaMF:** Do not know?

**JeffC:** Why don't they? Because something bad might happen. Some weird guy might say something bad to some student... and it would be all over the news.

**JeffC:** What percent of schools allow for their students to have email? A small percentage? Why not? Because something bad might happen.

**JeffC:** We're letting fear dictate policy.

**BrookW:** I teach elementary and know for a fact that our students can not have e-mail although many of them would like to

**JeffC:** A teacher told me that they had Roget's Thesaurus on CD, but had to take it away, because "sex" and the "f" word were on it.

**RitaZ:** true, Jeff, almost everywhere, I guess

**GloriaMF:** Yes, fear of making a mistake and exposing students to inappropriate material.

**LeanneH:** our district has its own server, through which all school net connections run

**RuthC:** The students I know have email at home if they have a home computer.

**JeffC:** Let me ask another rhetorical question, and the only ones who get to answer are those who say "yes" to \*both parts\*.

**BrookW:** mine does as well

**KristaKR:** mine too

**RobertWB:** Yes

**LeanneH:** and they have a filter service which blocks access to websites which even OFFER free email accounts

**JeffC:** How many of you have ever had guest speakers in your classroom? How many of you have ever had a \*virtual guest speaker in your classroom\*?

**HelenK:** I have

**SusanSi:** I have

**RuthC:** Maybe we are afraid of problems from parents with chat and email. Chat has gotten a bad image.

**DafneG:** I have

**BrookW:** I am finishing up my masters and we have had four guest speakers this semester, but never a virtual one

**GailH** joined the room.

**JeffC:** Helen and Susan and Dafne, you've all had virtual guest speakers? That's great!

**KristaKR:** I have never thought about it

**GloriaMF:** There is many services out there that the schools can use to prevent inappropriate material.

**CorinneW:** I will certainly invite a guest speaker now though

**RenataS:** I've been a virtual guest speaker...

**RobertWB:** Same here Renata.

**GloriaMF:** The virtual speaker must have been fun. Did the students like it?

**RuthC:** I've had guest speakers, but not virtual ones.

**JimOl:** It's what I call the Canute principle - in my schooldays, we weren't allowed to use calculators; there simply is no future in restraining the use of technologies - we need to embrace them and teach young people how to use them responsibly - mobile phones for example

**DafneG:** some of us have been virtual guest speakers many times

**TeresaD:** same here, Bob and Renata

**AdamH:** Many schools don't have the technology to have virtual guest speakers.

**LeanneH:** I had virtual guest speakers at a conference presentation I made once

**SusanSi:** National Parks & Wildlife webcast-we listened to a scientist from Alaska

**GilaT:** How would you arrange for a virtual speaker?

**JeffC:** Where I'm leading to is this... you are making good points here people, what we need to do is discover between ourselves the tools that are available to transcend the paranoia, and start bringing education into the realm of 21st Century best practices.

**TeresaD:** I've also had voice chats with students

**ButhainaA:** I wanted but was prevented to have a virtual guest to speak to my students, Jeff.

**JeffC:** Good question Gila.

**JeffC:** First... you will need to find out if there is indeed a way for either text chat or audio/video to make it through your district's firewall. This is no small problem.

**DafneG:** we pitch in for the members of our virtual community, Gila

**BrookW:** Jeff, that is something we are currently doing presentations on in our class. We are discussing the future of many subjects and topics in education and everyone of them stems back to technology.

**JeffC:** Collaboration is \*not encouraged through technology in K-12 districts today because of the paranoia\*. How does one overcome paranoia? Hopefully through logic and necessity.

**ButhainaA:** But have done the experience earlier and my students liked it a lot.

**RuthC:** How do make contact with a virtual guest speaker? How do you know who is willing to do something like this?

**TeresaD:** I guess you can [ask] for one in lists you belong to, Gila. similar to a call for collaboration

**JeffC:** I'll get to that in a moment Ruth...

**RenataS:** the person I approached came for real instead

**RenataS:** didn't want to be virtual

**RitaZ:** why, Renata, fear?

**NathanL:** I think I'd disagree that its being suppressed thru paranoia so much as ignorance of the possibilities

**GilaT:** I teach in a virtual school, so these tools would need to be available on my students' personal computers

**JeffC:** There are a myriad of ways to get virtual speakers... this is just one example though of what we *\*could\** and perhaps *\*should\** be doing, but aren't.

**RobertWB:** SO what do you mean, overcoming paranoia by logic and necessity, Jeff.

**NathanL:** also the systemic repression of innovation

**JeffC:** Virtual speakers could be arranged for in a variety of ways... obviously... one suggestion would be to invite speakers from sites of interest you visit.

**NathanL:** in general

**CherylLC:** At what grade are students ready so that we can we begin to explore a virtual classroom experience?

**ButhainaA:** You could also invite an expert in a certain field as a guest speaker

**JeffC:** Logic and Necessity... we need to break out of the conventional ways of thinking and teaching subjects... to show administrators that there is a wonderful world out there that we could bring into our students.

**LeanneH:** Nathan, in k-12 environments, it is fear of lawsuits

**LeanneH:** I know this for a fact in my district

**KarenGar** . o O ( that's an interesting point.... giving voice to webpage characters... )

**JeffC:** The fear of lawsuits, or bad press, etc. are all negative driving forces in education today.

**ButhainaA:** This is what I want to hear, Jeff, how to show administrators, please?

**KristaKR:** how do we overcome this

**JeffC:** How many of you have seen *\*positive media representations of Collaborative uses of the internet?\**

**NathanL:** oh I don't disagree that they are negative forces

**NathanL:** but I don't believe they are the chief driving forces in adoption

**SusanSi:** I just invited my principal in our room to watch what we were doing-she was amazed

**BrookW:** I totally agree. That's unfortunately one thing that keeps most counties and school districts from keeping up with the technological advances such as virtual classroom

**JeffC:** I say that if we start to engage in best practice, finding out what *\*can and should be done\** ... and drawing media attention to *\*positive outcomes\**, we can transcend the paranoia.

**SheriG:** the media does not like positive

**JeffC:** Now... let me return to the article and a few of the sites to show you what I mean.

**BrookW:** I agree. But where do we get started

**ButhainaA:** do you mean local media in our countries, Jeff?

**JeffC:** Yes Buthaina, and yes Sheri...both are true... but it's time we made things happen.

**JeffC:** Let me start now by going over briefly my article.

**ButhainaA:** Sure, I am desperate

**JeffC:** I hope you have had a chance to glance at it.

**JeffC:** <http://snurl.com/netc1>

**JeffC:** One of my better success stories was what happened at Richmond High.

**GloriaMF:** Yes, I glanced at it.

**JeffC:** These were all unmotivated kids.

**JeffC:** Low achievers, 9th graders at third grade level.

**BrookW:** I would definitely consider that a success story

**LeanneH:** some of us may just choose to move to where a more positive attitude already exists, LOL

**CrisB:** It sounds like the children were really inspired by experience.

**JeffC:** I helped the kids develop a positive attitude with this project.

**JeffC:** What I \*didn't\* do was alert the media.

**JeffC:** And now... in retrospect... maybe I should've.

**BrookW:** That was probably a smart thing not to do:)

**ChC:** media is the key

**JeffC:** Because, you're right Sheri... the media doesn't like positive.

**JeffC:** For the most part... they'd rather sit back and wait for something bad to happen.

**JeffC:** My argument is that we have the media in front of us.

**RobertWB:** Find and save positive articles and put them in your space on open house night.

**GloriaMF:** The media would try to look for something negative to say.

**TeresaD:** that's what sells and gives high ratings

**RobertWB:** send positive articles to the local news,.

**ChC:** in San Jose, Digitalclubhouse

**JeffC:** We don't have to wait for Channel 4 to pick it up... we can start by working with each other and publicize the positives.

**RobertWB:** Play up every tiny positive within the system.

**KristaKR:** we need to think positively

**RobertWB:** Make sure parents know what you are doing.

**TeresaD:** absolutely, Bob

**BrookW:** Making sure the parents are aware is key

**JeffC:** We are the best search engines on the Net... human beings. All of us have success stories... we can build up ourselves by helping each other.

**RobertWB:** Invite Channel 4 to be part of the class.

**JeffC:** We need to start somewhere.

**TeresaD:** lol

**RobertWB:** Interview Channel 4 via the net.

**GloriaMF:** That's a good idea.

**SusannahW:** Good idea, put the positives in newsletters and on class websites, so student's families will know.

**ButhainaA:** My article about things teachers could do with technology for their students, in Arabic, is still lying on the desk of a journalist since April, 2004.

**JeffC:** Again... take a look at the positives in this article: facilitation--validation--motivation--collaboration

**GloriaMF:** You can send newsletters as well.

**BrandiZ:** we can start by putting these great ideas and success stories on our school websites

**CorinneW:** I disagree, I have worked closely with the press and they like to have been the first to hear about a solid project and report on your progress, it can help eliminate preconceptions or myths too. Hiding something from the press makes them cynical and makes them probe for bad news and we all know that if you dig deep enough there is always something negative to be found even if it is an isolated incident

**JeffC:** Then you need to write him Buthaina and tell him you will have it published elsewhere.

**ButhainaA:** But, you are right, Jeff, I might try and ask somebody else

**RobertWB:** The parents are afraid of what they don't know....teach them.

**GloriaMF:** Websites is a good start as well.

**KellyeC:** do student's families really pay attention to news letters and websites?

**ButhainaA:** yes, I will tell her

**SarahLy:** Students could even create the newsletters with the teachers.

**JeffC:** Good points Corinne.

**BrookW:** At my school we currently send home newsletters every week and each teacher and classroom is responsible for maintaining a web-page. The benefits are great for the parents

**RobertWB:** Try to seek out the negatives in your own view point and replace them with the positives....

**KellyeC:** Sarah, perhaps that will get families involved...

**RobertWB:** You may be your own bottleneck.

**JeffC:** However... the fact remains that in the K-12 classroom, tech is cornered by restrictions that make it very difficult to advance best practice.

**CorinneW:** Perhaps we should try and get the parents to get more involved, perhaps one of the parents can help source online guests for example

**GloriaMF:** Need to go around those restrictions.

**JeffC:** Moving down in my article... I'm sure that for a number of you today is your first day at Tapped In.

**JeffC:** This is a Virtual Learning Community... not to be confused with a Virtual Learning Environment.

**RuthC:** You are right. Getting parental support is very important.

**BrookW:** This is my third time here, and I learn more and more each time I visit.

**JeffC:** For more on the differentiation of the two, please take a look at

<http://snurl.com/muvearticle>

**JeffC:** (not necessary to look now)

**RitaZ:** parents need to know and gain confidence

**JeffC:** I have had professional relationships with people here for a number of years... this is something that cannot be obtained by systems tools like WebCT or Blackboard.

**JeffC:** I would like to share with you a number of online \*communities\* and let you decide for yourselves which ones might suit you... which would help you in the classroom.

**JeffC:** For starters: Tapped In-- <http://snipurl.com/tappedinview>

**GloriaMF:** That's great.

**BrookW:** I am a physical educator. Do you know of any that would benefit my students in my classroom atmosphere

**JeffC:** If you look at that link, you'll see my own virtual office here (and I will continue this after my time is up, in my office).

**JeffC:** Have any of you considered having virtual office hours with parents and students?

**ElizabethH:** I like that photo, Jeff!

**ChC:** Jeff, found digital clubhouse, got a lot of publicity,  
<http://www.storycenter.org/index.html>

**SusanneN** agree with Jeff, this is a great place to meet with colleagues, from around the world!

**JeffC:** Even PE teachers can meet online with their students and parents!

**RobinAL:** Yes, I've considered using this for home communication.

**KristaKR:** This is great

**JeffC:** How many of you hold virtual office hours? Just say "yes" if you do

**ButhainaA:** I have voffice hours with my students.

**DafneG:** I have office hours with my online students

**RobertWB:** Yes

**BrookW:** I would really like that. I feel that I need to have more contact with my parents.

**RitaZ:** yes

**SusanneN:** sometimes yes

**KellyeC:** Like Brook mentioned earlier...we are discussing the future of technology and virtual conferences were a topic of discussion.

**TeresaD:** yes

**JeffC:** OK... well... you all know this: YOU'RE EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE!

**HeatherN:** I would like to.

**BrookW:** Many times, we get left out of the loop and the parents either don't care or have no idea what their students are doing in my classroom

**BrandiZ:** haven't considered the virtual office hours...until now-great idea for those parents who have a hard time making it to the school

**CrisB:** It would definitely be helpful for working parents.

**SusannahW:** True, everyone is busy.

**SuePi:** would love to but many don't have computer access

**JeffC:** Of course... let parents know that you will hold virtual office hours (whenever)... and they can drop into your office here.

**BrandiZ:** if they are on line they really don't have any excuses

**CorinneW:** For PE, it would be great to teach the theory side - through a web discovery style assignment or online portfolio

**RuthC:** Virtual office hours sounds great.

**JessicaMF:** is it possible to transcript this for legal reasons....

**KristaKR:** I think the students and parents at my school would love it

**BrookW:** That is a great idea Corinne.

**JeffC:** Transcripts are automatic upon logoff Jessica.

**CarlosA:** in Tapped In, if you're a member, there's always transcripts generated and mailed to you

**ElizabethH:** If parents come as Guests they don't get a transcript, however.

**JeffC:** Moving on: Email Communities <http://www.epals.com>

**ElizabethH:** You might have to advise them beforehand that the chat is transcribed--and send them a copy.

**DanielHF:** how would you have a private conversation with a parent in an online chat?

**RuthC:** So am I correct that if we have a conversation in our virtual office we will get a transcript of the discussion?

**ButhainaA:** one of my students presented live online using webpages she created and said that her parents couldn't even [be] bothered to take a look at her work

**JeffC:** If you go to epals, you can create an account for yourself, and up to 35 students, and then \*correspond in safety with students around the world\*. They are a global community

**RobertWB:** Corinne, my daughter at college is taking a PE that has three weeks of F2F instruction then the rest of the semester the meet on the net., to monitor progress, motivate each other discuss the exercises etc. with measurement at the end of the sem.

**AdamH:** I like this one- lets students communicate like pen-pals

**NadineN:** I've tried epals

**KellyeC:** That is interesting, Robert

**GloriaMF:** E-Pal is a good site to visit.

**CorinneW:** Robert, that's excellent

**MaryEZ:** Some of these things can also be done through good course management software by creating groups

**SergeiG:** and egroups

**BrandiZ:** good information to have

**JeffC:** There are others... <http://www.gaggle.net> and also <http://t-mail.com> (translatable)... epals also has a translator built in.

**CrisB:** Robert, neat idea

**JeffC:** But the key is this... starting to think differently.

**RitaZ:** the most difficult task is motivating stds

**JeffC:** Starting to think that you are not isolated as an educator.

**MarthaJ:** Here is a link to give to your administrators to help them to think differntly. <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/>

**RobertWB:** Get parents to act as an e-mentor one hour per week for students that might not get one otherwise.

**MaryEZ:** I get a lot out of these online discussions for example

**JeffC:** In my position as Ed Tech Specialist, I was forbidden from showing MAT students lesson planning sites... because the professors feared that they would use them in their work samples.

**LeanneH:** ah good, maybe that'll motivate some of our admins

**LeanneH:** the URL

**MaryEZ:** I work in Colleges so that may be quite different-

**BrookW:** Thanks Martha, that link may be very helpful.

**MaryEZ:** we do not interact with parents much

**KristaKR:** Martha, that is a great website!

**JeffC:** Now... again a rhetorical question. What percentage of educators are good curriculum designers?

**MarkLS:** 3%

**JeffC:** Answer: maybe 10%

**GloriaMF:** More interaction with parents is needed.

**JeffC:** More likely that Mark is right.

**GailH:** Are most teachers supposed to be designing curriculum though?

**GailH:** I mean , prepared to, etc.,

**GloriaMF:** Get them to participate in the children's learning.

**LeanneH:** YES

**JeffC:** But if you go to my public bookmarks at

<http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/coops> and open the Lesson Plan folder... you will see a couple dozen sites.

**MaryEZ:** Certainly it is so in higher ed- profs design their curriculums and courses

**KristaKR:** Teachers need more of a voice in designing the curriculum

**CarlosA:** which doesn't always mean they know how to

**JeffC:** How do we get parents and students more involved in their own education?

Perhaps by getting them more involved in choosing and designing their own curriculum!

**RobinAL:** YES!

**LeanneH:** good teachers SHOULD help design their curriculum though

**GloriaMF:** Yes, good idea.

**RobertWB:** Very constructivist.

**KellyeC:** neat idea

**DorothyW** joined the room.

**BrookW:** People always get more involved if they feel that played a part in the activity or idea

**JeffC:** This is my 15 Collaborative Site Trackstar track.

**KellyeC:** I agree w/ Brook...they feel they have 'ownership'

**GloriaMF:** Designing their own curriculum will be a good idea.

**RuthC:** I always planned part of my curriculum.

**SusanneN:** oh, you've got such a rich collection of useful bookmarks jeff!

**BrandiZ:** great bookmarks, have to check them out later

**JeffC:**

[http://trackstar.hprtec.org/main/track\\_frames.php3?track\\_id=124403&nocache=1531827448](http://trackstar.hprtec.org/main/track_frames.php3?track_id=124403&nocache=1531827448)

**GloriaMF:** Good collection Jeff.

**JeffC:** click on that!

**RobertWB:** IS this on your office page at TI, Jeff.

**JeffC:** Take a look at the 8th link... the New York Times Learning Network.

**ChC:** this freeze my computer, where is this located so I can view later

**RobinAL:** NYT LN is a great resource

**MaryEZ:** Maybe so many of us going there is overwhelming?

**AdamH:** Teachers need more time to become directly involved with developing curriculum- which districts provide that?

**CandaceJaG:** great source, every Wednesday, my kids love doing this in the lab

**LeanneH:** I'm going to look at them later when the transcript comes in

**JeffC:** <http://snurl.com/fifteensites>

**LeanneH:** districts almost never provide that, Adam

**RuthC:** I'm waiting too - I can't get them to open

**LeanneH:** we do it on our own time

**RitaZ:** . o O ( Leanne's idea is good )

**SuePi:** I always develop my own curriculum and time is the crucial element

**AdamH:** my point

**JeffC:** I know I'm going fast... and really letting people flow with the dialogue... so don't sweat it if you don't \*get everything\*!

**JeffC:** Trackstar is a great collaborative site in its own right.

**BrookW:** That's the benefit of receiving a transcript

**WendyES:** Do you have any sites that would work for young adult ESL?

**JeffC:** You can search it, type in "frogs" for example (after registering, which is 100% free)...

**SuePi:** it is wonderful for your students to cut down on research time

**JeffC:** Yes Wendy... I have ESL

**JeffC:** <http://moodle.ntjcpa.edu.tw/>

**LeanneH:** even what they call our "planning periods" are often taken from us for hall duty and meetings that are irrelevant to our curriculum

**RitaZ:** have you used Trackstar, Jeff?

**KarenGar:** yes... Opensource for Educators....

**RobertWB:** That's Venny's site.

**BrookW:** I had to fight to even get a planning period

**RobertWB:** and Karen

**JeffC:** I use Trackstar all the time

**JeffC:** Yes... Venny's site.

**SuePi:** they took our team planning time away at my middle school - budget constraints

**BrandiZ:** nyt site looks like it has quite a few good lps

**KellyeC:** You are right, Leanne

**JeffC:** I recommend the New York Times Learning Network as having the best 6-12 lessons online

**JeffC:** (sorry K-5... they don't have them yet)

**ElizabethH:** Site location:  
<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/archive.html>

**JeffC:** Now... how many of you have considered giving an assignment of having students design a lesson?

**SarahLy:** I have.

**CorinneW:** Hmmm interesting

**SergeiG:** agrees. NY Times provides good lesson plans

**KristaKR:** I have also

**SheriG:** yes

**SuePi:** I have done that

**GloriaMF:** Never considered it but that is a good idea

**JeffC:** That is one way to get going... again... get the students and parents involved... work with them, rather than \*at\* them.

**GloriaMF:** Gives them another prospective.

**SergeiG:** One can subscribe to get its lessons everyday

**BrookW:** I do an activity each year in which my students get into small groups and design their own activity and game. They must then teach it to the rest of the class. They only have certain materials to use

**JeffC:** <http://www.bloglines.com/>

**JeffC:** Next tool to consider: blogs

**AdamH:** never

**KellyeC:** In physical education I have allowed students to design activities and games

**MaryEZ:** Creating things does really lead to learning-

**JeffC:** How about having a classblog? Something that everyone in the class can enter on?

**BrookW:** They finally get an idea of how difficult it can be to design a lesson that all of them will like and be successful at.

**GloriaMF:** I have a Blogger account.

**BrookW:** They get to stand in my shoes for once

**DanielHF:** what is a blog?

**ButhainaA:** I had my students design a vocabulary quiz

**SharonDi:** Blogs are wonderful.

**JeffC:** A blog is a weblog... a very easy way to create a webpage...

**SusannahW:** Daniel - A web based journal

**AdamH:** there is also <http://www.blogger.com>

**JeffC:** There are a number of ways to do them... and I don't have time to talk about them now... just sparking your interest!

**CrisB:** Our university class participates in blogging.

**MaryEZ:** College Students use them all the time-

**JeffC:** Next: Assessment!

**JeffC:** <http://www.theospi.org/>

**GloriaMF:** It is a journal that others can make comments on your entries.

**JeffC:** Any of you ever consider Virtual Portfolio Assessment?

**JeffC:** Ever look at a cume folder? Ever wonder where your students are coming from?

**JeffC:** <http://www.theospi.org/> is an open source portfolio assessment tool... free!

**JessicaMF:** WOW!

**JeffC:** Professional Development: <http://www.shambles.net/>

**AdamH:** that is neat

**GloriaMF:** That is fine Jeff.

**CarolynDE:** Cume folder?

**LeanneH:** yay, all those I have ever seen hawked at conferences were charged for

**DafneG:** this is great, Jeff

**JeffC:** And back to my earlier point about support... and transforming curriculum.

**ButhainaA:** I had my students do their virtual portfolios, Jeff.

**JeffC:** Unless you really have sustained support, you won't have change.

**LeanneH:** Cume = cumulative folder, a student's lifetime records in education

**JeffC:** One day staff developments don't cut it.

**MaryEZ:** Getting IT support sometime is hard too

**AdamH:** shambles did not come up for me  
**JeffC:** <http://snurl.com/cooperebay>  
**ElizabethH:** IS OSPI ready for use now?  
**JeffC:** OSPI is ready for download  
**RuthC:** What is OSPI?  
**MaryEZ:** I have an Eng department interested!  
**CarlosA:** and when you do support or instructional design it is hard to find the resources to support things like this  
**AdamH:** The portfolio link  
**JeffC:** OK... now... I've whetted some appetites I'm sure...  
**ElizabethH:** Shambles i stalled out  
**RitaZ:** what a wealth of info, Jeff  
**JeffC:** And I would like to continue this conversation.  
**MaryEZ:** You surely have!  
**BrookW:** Thank you for your help and information Jeff. It is always beneficial.  
**GloriaMF:** You are full of information Jeff, thank you.  
**SusannahW:** Thank you.  
**JeffC:** I'm going to continue it here... but also at another site.  
**NadineN:** yes, thank you  
**JeffC:** where there is audio  
**KristaKR:** Thank you!  
**ElizabethH:** Jeff--I love the bidding idea!! that is sooo coooooo!  
**AdamH:** Thanks Jeff  
**ArianeCGst23:** Thanks  
**MeganGst24:** Thanks Jeff  
**RussellH:** thanks  
**AdamH:** where is that?  
**RobertWB:** I love the Ebay site, Jeff...great concept.  
**SuePi:** thanks for all the great sites  
**SheriG:** Thanks! I never would have imagined virtual speakers.  
**WendyES:** Thanks Jeff. Great stuff!  
**ChC:** [www.talkingcommunities.com/entrance.pl?chee](http://www.talkingcommunities.com/entrance.pl?chee)  
**LeanneH:** and do you use it later?  
**JeffC:** I want all of you to think about virtual communities... and building professional relationships.  
**SusanR:** wow, Jeff  
**KellyeC:** Thank you Jeff! Interesting information.  
**RitaZ:** thanks, Jeff, its been a great session  
**BrandiZ:** Thank you for your time. Lots to look at!  
**JeffC:** I still support students from years gone by... and wish that I had more time for everyone... so... I will stay logged in here for now...  
**CrisB:** Interesting options, I had never thought of virtual speakers.  
**SarahLy:** Thank you Jeff. You brought up some excellent ideas.  
**SusanneN:** a very excellent presentation, jeff  
**AnnMD:** Thanks Jeff, I'm interested in learning more about Virtual Classrooms and office hours for parents. Thanks for your insight.

**JeffC:** And urge everyone to click on the link for talking communities

**ButhainaA:** yes, right, Jeff, professional relationships is what we need

**CorinneW:** A roller coaster ride, full with the thrills that we would expect from you Jeff, thanks.

**CarolynDE:** Thanks for all the useful info, links, and support, Jeff!

**JeffC:** <http://www.talkingcommunities.com/entrance.pl?chee>

**TeresaD:** great resources, Jeff. and great article

**SusanSi:** thanks, Jeff

**TeresaD:** thank you!

**JessicaMF:** THANKS

**ButhainaA:** thank you so much, Jeff for the information and inspiration.

**JeffC:** I also want to invite all Math and Science educators to the Resource Groups I facilitate here.

**JeffC:** They meet the first Tuesday from 4-5 Pacific for Math and 5-6 for Science.